

## Age-Adjusted Death Rate for Diseases of the Heart

**Description:** Age-adjusted death rates for diseases of the heart per 100,000 population. Rates are based on a count of deaths for which the underlying cause of death was determined to Diseases of the Heart, in accordance with the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10), Second Edition. Causes of death attributable to Diseases of the Heart include ICD-10 codes:

- I00—I09 (acute rheumatic fever and chronic rheumatic heart diseases)
- I11 (hypertensive heart disease)
- I13 (hypertensive heart and renal disease)
- I20—I25 (ischemic heart diseases)
- I26-I51 (acute and subacute endocarditis, diseases of pericardium and acute myocarditis, heart failure, and all other forms of heart disease).

**Ages:** Includes all ages; rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. population in order to eliminate the confounding effect of differences in age distributions by zip code area.

**Age-Adjustment:** A methodology used to compare rates among populations with differing age distributions.

### Year(s) of Data Included in Rate:

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Numerator (Death Data): 2006-2010 (average)

Denominator (Population Data): 2008 (midyear population)

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**Resident Allocation:** Includes all deaths occurring among Maryland residents, regardless of whether the death occurred in Maryland, the remainder of the United States, or certain foreign countries that report vital event data to Maryland.

**Data Suppression:** Zip codes with a population less than 5,000 are suppressed.

**Limitations:** Cause of death information is provided by the individual who certifies the death and is generally not verified. Population figures are based on estimates, not actual counts.

**Data Interpretation:** This rate expresses the health of the zip code from the perspective of heart disease deaths. It corrects for differences in population size and age between zip codes. Therefore, this rate is appropriate for comparing the relative health among zip codes from the perspective of heart disease deaths.

**Data Sources:** The numerator (Death Data) includes information provided on death certificates filed with the Maryland Division of Vital Records, Vital Statistics Administration. The denominator (Population Data) includes estimates prepared by Claritas, an information resources company that prepares population estimates for small areas.

**Data Reference:** Vital Statistics Administration, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Claritas.